

## HOUSE BILL NO. 615

INTRODUCED BY HARRIS

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT CREATING AN ENVIRONMENTAL ~~CRIMES~~ VIOLATIONS INVESTIGATION AND PROSECUTION ~~OFFICE~~ AUTHORITY IN THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

**NEW SECTION. Section 1. Environmental crimes violations investigation and prosecution office**  
**-- AUTHORITY.** ~~(1) There is an environmental crimes investigation and prosecution office in the department of justice. The office shall, AT THE REQUEST OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY, investigate and prosecute cases involving violations of the provisions of Title 75.~~

~~(2) The office is under the supervision and control of the attorney general and consists of one or more attorneys licensed to practice law in Montana who~~ THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, AT THE REQUEST OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY, shall investigate and prosecute violations of the provisions of Title 75-  
~~The office~~ AND ~~may also, AT THEIR REQUEST,~~ assist county attorneys in investigating and prosecuting ~~environmental crimes,~~ VIOLATIONS OF THE PROVISIONS OF TITLE 75 without charge to the county.

**NEW SECTION. Section 2. Codification instruction.** [Section 1] is intended to be codified as an integral part of Title 2, chapter 15, part 20, and the provisions of Title 2, chapter 15, part 20, apply to [section 1].

**NEW SECTION. Section 3. Effective date.** [This act] is effective July 1, 2005.

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